COVID-19 FAQs

This is a rapidly changing situation and this document will be updated as new information is available. Last updated: 4-29-20

What is the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus, or COVID-19, is a new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China.

How does the virus spread?

This virus probably originally emerged from an animal source but is now spreading from person-to-person. It's important to note that person-to-person spread can happen on a continuum. Some viruses are highly contagious (like measles), while other viruses are less so.

The virus that causes COVID-19 seems to be spreading sustainably in some affected geographic areas. Community spread means people have been infected with the virus in an area, including some who are not sure how or where they became infected.

How can I protect myself?

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19 respiratory infection. However, the following actions will help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses:

- Get a seasonal flu shot.
- Wash hands frequently.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth with your upper sleeve or with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Social distancing for everyone. Social distancing is refraining from congregate settings, avoiding mass gatherings, and maintaining distance of six feet or more whenever possible to limit the ability of the virus to spread.

Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 information website to learn about how to protect yourself from respiratory illnesses, like COVID-19.
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/community/index.html

Where can I travel?

This information is evolving. We recommend staying up to date with the CDC's travel health notices related to this outbreak.

What is the city of Sedona doing to be proactive against this virus?

The city is following the advice of the health experts at the CDC, state and county health departments for specific information on things like prevention, travel restrictions, large events, etc. Please look to these resources:

- Arizona Department of Health and Human Services information.
- Coconino County Health and Human Services information.
- Yavapai County Health Services website.
- CDC's travel notices.

City moves to virtual and phone services:

Beginning Wednesday, March 18, 2020, the city of Sedona closed to in-person access to city facilities and moved to virtual and phone services, until further notice. Read this news release for details.

City follows stay-at-home order, business limitation mandates:

On March 30, 2020, Arizona Governor Doug Ducey announced a mandatory stay-at-home Executive Order. Until May 15, 2020, all Arizona residents must stay at home except:

- To conduct or participate in essential activities.
- For employment, to volunteer or participate in essential functions.
- To utilize any services or products provided by essential business services.
- For employment if as a sole proprietor or family owned business, work is conducted in a separate office space from your home and the business is not open to serve the public.

Read the list of essential activities, functions and services here AND the updates to essential services here.

Additionally, the Governor announced non-essential businesses may open for retail in the following phases:

- On May 4, 2020, businesses may open for retail goods sales via curbside and delivery or appointment.
- On May 8, 2020, businesses may open for retail goods sales if they follow strict physical distancing and implement public health protections and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines including:

  - Reduced occupancy/capacity.
  - Comprehensive sanitation protocols.
  - Options for curbside or delivery.
  - Fitting rooms remain closed at clothing stores.

Read the most recent Executive Order here. This Executive Order supersedes Sedona Mayor Sandy Moriarty's previous Emergency Proclamation.

Still have questions on the mandates for businesses? Read this more detailed FAQ for businesses and email questions@sedonaaz.gov.

Know that the city, in coordination with Coconino and Yavapai counties and their epidemiologists, emergency response teams and policy leaders, healthcare professionals and other stakeholders are monitoring the situation daily and following the guidelines set-forth by the CDC and other federal, state and county government agencies.

How will this affect business?

The city recognizes this is going to be a challenging time for Sedona businesses. However, as the Mayor said in her letter to the community, "It appears that no restrictions can stop what has started, but decisive action can save lives."

The Chamber of Commerce has not done any proactive marketing of Sedona since February and has no plans in the future to do so either. Read their letter to the community here.

The city is monitoring this situation closely with the Chamber of Commerce to evaluate the needs of the Sedona economy knowing the health and safety of all residents is the utmost priority for the city.

For businesses looking for resources and assistance including loans and employee needs, view this list.

Are events canceled?

The city of Sedona cancelled all city-sponsored and city-permitted large gatherings or events, or private gatherings or events on city properties, until May 9, 2020. In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order, all private, non-city events must be canceled unless they are deemed essential services until May 15, 2020.

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Cancellations will additionally be made for all non-essential city meetings and programs with the public, until May 15, 2020. The pool is closed until further notice.

Read more on cancellations here.

Where else can I find information?

For more on the City's response to COVID-19, go to www.sedonaaz.gov/covid19.

Look to the following CDC, state and county resources for more information on the coronavirus:

- Coconino County Health and Human Services COVID-19 hotline: 928-679-7300 and website.
- Yavapai County Health Services hotline: 928-442-5103 and website.
- Coconino County COVID-19 testing information.
- Statewide hotline on all COVID-19-related issues: dial 211.
- CDC website on coronavirus.
- Tips on coronavirus prevention and 10 ways to manage respiratory symptoms at home.
- Arizona Department of Health and Human Services information.
- CDC's travel notices.
- The President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America.